

JAMES R. MICELI REPRESENTATIVE 19TH MIDDLESEX DISTRICT

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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House Committee on Fersonnel and Administration

ROOM 448, STATE HOUSE Tel. (617) 722-2582 FAX (617) 722-2879

December 12, 2005

The Honorable Vernon A. Williams Secretary Surface Transportation Board 1925 K Street NW Washington, DC 20423

Re: STB Finance Docket, No. 34797

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Dear Secretary Williams,

I respectfully request that the comment period for New England Transrail, LLC, d/b/a Wilmington & Woburn Terminal Railway – Petition for an Exemption from 49 U.S.C. 10901 to Acquire, Construct and Operate as a Rail Carrier on Tracks and Land In Wilmington and Woburn, Massachusetts be extended until January 20, 2006.

The petitioner requested expedited consideration of this petition. I am vehemently opposed to any expeditious review of this petition. Since the original application was filed, the Town of Wilmington, Governor Mitt Romney and the Regional Office of the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requested that this site be added to the National Priorities List. A Project Manager and Community Liaison were assigned to this site the week of the December 5th.

I am also requesting that the comment period for this filing be extended because of the enormous amount of interest in this petition and the timing of the filing. Currently, comments are due to the Board by the end of business on December 26, the day after Christmas. I would also like to have the opportunity to receive input from the EPA regarding the listing of this site, as well as their timetable for progress on this site prior to submitting official comments. I have been told by the EPA that they will have a better grasp of the site after the first of the year.

Taking into account the timing of the filing and the pending superfund status, the comment period should be extended until at least January 20, 2006.

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Thank you for your consideration.

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AMÉS R. MICEL

Chairman



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Date: December 13, 2005 Pages (including cover):

Docket #STB 34797